

DONATION IN LIEU OF ORDINARY RATES POLICY

Responsible Department:	Corporate and Community Services
Responsible Section:	Corporate and Community Services
Responsible Officer:	Manager Financial Services

Objective

- To consider financial assistance by way of donation to local service, cultural, sporting, charitable or non-profit organisations who operate within or provide benefit to the residents of Narrabri Shire or conduct quality cultural, sporting and community service programs and activities and who cannot attract sufficient funds from other sources;
- To address targets specified within the Community Strategic Plan or other Strategic Documents as well as objectives;
- Detail the principles whereby Council grants donations to organisations.

Introduction

Sections 555 through to 559 of the *Local Government Act 1993* outlines which land is exempt from ordinary rates and charges. This policy is formulated to provide a donation to community-based land in lieu of ordinary rates.

Policy

Donations in Lieu of Ordinary Rates

As Council operates separate funds for all its water and sewerage operations it contends that the present charging structure for each fund would be the cost of providing the service to that land.

The properties have been split into different classifications to enable detailed consideration of the options. Councils charging policy for each classification is as follows:

- **Crown Land Operated by State or Federal Departments**
Full water and sewerage access and consumption charges shall be levied.
- **School Related Properties**
Full water and sewerage access and consumption charges shall be levied.

- **Religious Body Properties**
(Includes churches and residences.)
 - 50% of normal water and sewerage access charges shall be levied.
 - Full rate for water usage shall be charged where applicable.
- **Hospitals**
Full water and sewerage access and consumption charges shall be levied.
- **Aged Person Hostels**
Privately owned and operated institutions to be charged full water and sewerage access and consumption charges.
- **Aboriginal Land Council Land**
Full water and sewerage access and consumption charges shall be levied as per Act.

Marketing of the Donations Policy

Council commits to the following promotion of the Donation in Lieu of Ordinary Rates Policy:

- Recipients of the donation in previous financial year will be notified via email of the opening of the application period;
- The Donation in Lieu of Ordinary Rates Policy application period will be advertised on the Narrabri Shire Council website and on the official Council Facebook page.

Applications for Donations

Those organisations wishing to apply for an annual donation, where the land is rateable on property used directly in association with the organisations activity are required to apply to Council annually.

Community Services or Local Charity

For organisations that provide a community service and/or local charity Council will contribute:

100% of General Rates

100% of Annual Charges (water access, sewer and DWM access)

The Organisation will be required to pay Water Usages charges and DWM Collection charges (should the organisation opt to have a collection service). Should the organisation opt not to have the collection service then Council will donate the relevant monetary amount.

Sporting or Social Clubs and Registered Clubs

For organisations recognised as a sporting or social club (excluding Registered Clubs as defined under the *Registered Clubs Act 1976*) Council will contribute:

100% of General Rate only

The Organisation will be responsible for all annual charges including water usage. Should the organisation opt not to have the collection service then Council will donate the relevant monetary amount.

Council will advertise for applications to be submitted for consideration for an annual donation towards the Ordinary Rates. The applications must be submitted in the format of the attached application form. Applications will be considered in accordance with the following criteria:

- organisations recognised as a sporting club (excluding Registered Clubs as defined under the *Registered Clubs Act 1976*).
- Organisations recognised as a social club (excluding Registered Clubs as defined under the *Registered Clubs Act 1976*).
- Organisations that provide a community service.
- Organisations recognised as a local charity.

The *Registered Clubs Act, 1976* has the following definitions:

"registered club" means a club that holds a club licence.

"club licence" means a club licence granted under the *Liquor Act 2007*.

Successful applications will be included in Councils Annual Budget for the financial year, however will be required to reapply annually for assistance.

Applications which do not meet the enclosed guidelines shall be advised that the request is not eligible for consideration under this policy. Council reserves the right to assess any application (not fitting the criteria for assessment) on its merits according to Council's Policy.

References

- *Local Government Act (NSW) 1993.*
- *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.*
- *Registered Clubs Act, 1976*

History

Minute Number	Meeting Date	Description of Change
115/2014	April 5, 2016	Adopted
164/2017	August 15, 2017	Reviewed
	June 2, 2020	Rebranded



DONATION OF ORDINARY RATE APPLICATION

IMPORTANT: The information provided by you on this form will be used to assist Narrabri Shire Council in determining the suitability of the volunteer for the task. The provision of this information is voluntary, however, if you do not provide the information, Council may not be able to fully process your application. Once collected by Council, the information can be accessed by you in accordance with Council's Privacy Management Plan or in special circumstances, where Commonwealth legislation requires or where you give permission for third party access.

Date:

Details of Organisation:

Name of Organisation:

Property Address:

Property ID (from rates notices):

Contact Person:

Mailing Address (if different to Property Address):

Email Address:

Phone: Mobile:

Organisation Composition:

Please tick the most applicable category

- Community Organisation
- Charity Organisation
- Sporting Club -Excluding Registered Clubs as defined under the Registered Clubs Act 1976
- Social Club -Excluding Registered Clubs as defined under the Registered Clubs Act 1976

Details of Organisation:

Please give a brief description of the Organisation for which assistance is sought:

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Office Use

Date Received:

Approved By..... Date:.....